

Message Text

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L/PM - MR. MICHEL

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, FR

FOR THE AMBASSADOR

SUBJECT: US MILITARY PROCUREMENT ABROAD

REFERENCE WAS MADE IN YOUR MEETING WITH BOURGES ON SEPTEMBER 29, IN THE DISCUSSION OF STANDARDIZATION, TO THE ADDITIONAL FLEXIBILITY PROVIDED UNDER NEW US LAW FOR PURCHASES ABROAD. THIS REFERRED TO A PROVISION IN THE FY 1976 MILITARY PROCUREMENT AUTHORIZATION BILL WHICH WAS SIGNED INTO LAW ON OCTOBER 7 AS PL 94-106. SECTION 814 READS AS FOLLOWS:

(A) IT IS THE SENSE OF THE CONGRESS THAT EQUIPMENT, PROCEDURES, AMMUNITION, FUEL AND OTHER MILITARY IMPEDIMENTA FOR LAND, AIR AND NAVAL FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES STATIONED IN EUROPE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY SHOULD BE STANDARDIZED OR MADE INTEROPERABLE WITH THAT OF OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT FEASIBLE. IN CARRYING OUT SUCH POLICY THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SHALL, TO THE MAXIMUM FEASIBLE EXTENT, INITIATE AND CARRY OUT PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES THAT

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PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF EQUIPMENT WHICH IS STANDAR-

DIZED OR INTEROPERABLE WITH EQUIPMENT OF OTHER MEMBERS OF
THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION WHENEVER SUCH
EQUIPMENT IS DESIGNED PRIMARILY TO BE USED BY PERSONNEL

OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES STATIONED IN
EUROPE UNDER THE TERMS OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY.

(B) THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER SECTION 302(C) OF PUBLIC
LAW 93-365 SHALL INCLUDE A LISTING OF THE INITIATION OF
PROCUREMENT ACTION ON ANY NEW MAJOR SYSTEM NOT IN COM-
PLIANCE WITH THE POLICY SET FORTH IN SECTION (A).

(C) SECTION 302(C) OF PUBLIC LAW 93-365 IS AMENDED BY
DELETING THE LAST TWO SENTENCES AND INSERTING IN LIEU
THEREOF THE FOLLOWING: "THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SHALL
REPORT ANNUALLY, NOT LATER THAN JANUARY 31 OF EACH YEAR,
TO THE CONGRESS ON THE SPECIFIC ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUA-
TIONS MADE UNDER THE ABOVE PROVISIONS AS WELL AS THE
RESULTS ACHIEVED WITH THE NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZ-
ATION ALLIES." KISSINGER

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